



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/600,370	06/23/2003	Wei-Ho Liu		7056

7590 03/31/2005  
Troxell Law Office PLLC  
5205 Leesburg Pike, Suite 1404  
Falls Church, VA 22041

EXAMINER

LEE, JINHEE J

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2831

DATE MAILED: 03/31/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/600,370

Applicant(s)

LIU, WEI-HO

Examiner

Jinhee J. Lee

Art Unit

2831

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 January 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 5 and 6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 5 and 6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 06 January 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☒ Other: approved proposed drawing.

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 5-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over applicant's admitted prior art figure 5 (PA figure 5) in view of Castaldo (US005863221A).

Re claim 5, PA figure 5 substantially discloses a cable extension wire comprising a plug (60, 600) having: a housing (unnumbered), a circular flange (unnumbered) located on an exterior of the housing; and a plurality of electrodes (unnumbered) protruding from the housing; and a cable wire (70) connected to the plug at a first end thereof and connected to a plurality of sockets (80) on a second end thereof, each of the plurality of sockets having: a tube shaped housing (unnumbered); an accommodating chamber (unnumbered at the interior of 80); a plurality of insertion holes (81) located within the accommodating chamber. PA figure 5 does not explicitly disclose that the accommodating chamber has a recessed inner edge; a cover connected to an outer edge of the accommodating chamber of the tube shaped housing by a connecting piece, a protruding loop having a circular protruding flange located on an exterior thereof, the cover being movable between open and closed positions, the tube shape housing, the connecting piece, and the cover are integrally made of a rubber

material, wherein, when the cover is in the open position, the cover is withdrawn from the accommodating chamber, and, when the cover is in the closed position, the protruding loop of the cover is inserted into the accommodating chamber and the circular protruding flange being inserted into the recessed inner edge of the accommodating chamber creating a seal there between. However, Castaldo teaches of an accommodating chamber (24, bore) has a recessed inner edge (68, undercut); a cover (130, closure plug) connected to an outer edge of the accommodating chamber of the tube shaped housing by a connecting piece (154), a protruding loop (146) having a circular protruding flange (144) located on an exterior thereof, the cover being movable between open and closed positions, the tube shape housing (22), the connecting piece (154), and the cover are made of a rubber material (see column 3 line 58), wherein, when the cover is in the open position, the cover is withdrawn from the accommodating chamber, and, when the cover is in the closed position, the protruding loop of the cover is inserted into the accommodating chamber and the circular protruding flange being inserted into the recessed inner edge of the accommodating chamber creating a seal there between (see figures 2, 9 and abstract). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the cover and the recessed inner edge accommodating chamber of Castaldo on the extension wire of PA figure 5 in order to seal the socket from the weather. Furthermore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have the tube shape housing, the connecting piece and the cover be integrally made, since it has been held that forming in one piece an article which has formerly been

formed in two pieces and put together involves only routine skill in the art. *In re Larson*, 340 F.2d 965, 968, 144 USPQ 347, 349 (CCPA 1965).

Re claim 6, note that the extension wire of PA figure 5 includes a second plug (60, 600) having a second plug housing having a circular flange located on an exterior thereof and a plurality of electrodes, when the cover (130 of Castaldo) of a selected socket of the plurality of sockets is in the open position, the second plug is inserted into the accommodating chamber of the selected socket, the plurality of electrodes of the second plug are inserted into the plurality of insertion holes of the selected socket, the circular flange of the second plug is inserted into the recessed inner edge (68 of Castaldo) of the accommodating chamber of the selected socket creating a seal there between.

### ***Response to Arguments***

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 5-6 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Castaldo has been cited to reject in combination with PA figure 5 to meet the new claim limitations such as "accommodating chamber with a recessed inner edge" (see above rejection for full rejection).

### ***Conclusion***

4. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jinhee J. Lee whose telephone number is 571-272-1977. The examiner can normally be reached on M, T, Th and F at 6:30AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dean A. Reichard can be reached on 571-272-2800 ext. 31. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

jil

*Dean A. Reichard* 3/29/05  
DEAN A. REICHARD  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800